

### **REMARKS**

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the attention accorded to the instant application.

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Applicants have amended claims 1-2, 6-7, 9, 11-12, 16-19, 21-24 and 26-29.

#### **I. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,915,091 to Ludwig et al. ("Ludwig").

Applicants have amended claims 1-2, 6-7, 9, 11-12, 16-19, 21-24 and 26-29 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the steps of "delivering a first schedule data for recording said information on said plurality of terminal devices" and "recording said information on said plurality of terminal devices in accordance with said first schedule data." Similarly, independent claims 1, 6, 11, 21 and 26 have been amended to recite "recording information delivered at predetermined date and time in accordance with a first scheduled data." Claims 2, 7, 9, 12, 17-19, 22-24 and 27-29 have been amended to clarify the use of the additional schedule data.

The present invention, as recited in the amended claims, is directed to an information reproduction method and information reproducing system. The system of the present invention transmits and delivers a first schedule data to synchronize the recording of content. A second schedule data is transmitted by the system to subsequently reproduce the recorded content. Both schedule data may be transmitted by a user at a terminal to initiate and playback recorded content

or may be initiated by the system to, in one embodiment, initiate recording of content at an unattended terminal. Significantly, the first schedule data signal (to initiate recording of content) may be transmitted from any terminal.

By contrast, Ludwig is directed to synchronization in video conferencing where content is recorded and generated at single terminal. For instance, Ludwig teaches an example of time-sensitive media describing a specific time-stamped sequence of events captured by snapshot software at a single terminal. In order to synchronize the playback of such content, the content itself must be transmitted across the network and synchronized at each individual terminal.

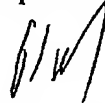
The present invention requires no such synchronization. Content is recorded at each individual terminal based on a first schedule data signal transmitted from any terminal to other terminals. Since content resides locally on each terminal, a second schedule data signal is needed to initiate playback in synchronization across all terminals. There is no teaching or suggestion in Boucher for such a schedule data signal.

Since the cited reference does not disclose each and every limitation recited in the amended claims, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 6, 11, 21 and 26 are allowable over the cited reference. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-20, 22-25 and 27-30, by their dependency on the amended independent claims, are similarly allowable.

## II. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims 1-30 are now in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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